AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the portions of the specification where identified to read as indicated.

At page 4, line 11, please delete line 11 in its entirety.

At page 4, line 12, please delete the number "4" and replace with the number 3.

At page 13, line 20 please delete "serine lactone (5)" and replace with: serine lactone (8).

At page 16, please delete the reaction scheme starting at line 15, and replace with:

At page 17, please delete the reaction scheme of lines 1 to 5, and replace with:

At page 18, please delete the reaction scheme starting at line 22, and replace with:

At page 20, please delete the reaction scheme preceding line 10, and replace with: